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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

HIRAI, Fumiyasu et al.

RECEIVED

PATENT

Serial No.

09/961,414

JAN 1 8 2002

Filed

September 25, 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

For

ENTEROTOXIN ADSORBENT, METHOD OF

ADSORPTIVE REMOVAL, AND ADSORPTION

APPARATUS

Group Art Unit

1645

Examiner

FORD, V.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed **January 3, 2002**, setting forth a shortened statutory response period of one month. Accordingly, this response is due on or before February 4, 2002 (February 3, 2002 being a Sunday).

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following groups of claims:

Group I:

Claims 1-3, drawn to an enterotoxin adsorbent classified class 424,

subclass 236.1.

Group II:

Claim 4, drawn to a method for adsorptive removal of an enterotoxin,

classified in class 424, subclass 140.1.

Group III:

Claim 5, drawn to an enterotoxin adsorption apparatus, classified in

class 435, subclass 283.1.

Applicant hereby elects Group II, Claim 4, drawn to a method for adsorptive removal